PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.	09/823,506	**Group Art Unit:**	2621
Applicant(s):	Fernandez et al.	**Examiner:**	Tung T. Vo
Filing Date:	March 28, 2001	**Docket No.**	078700.110101
Title:	INTEGRATED NETWORK FOR MONITORING OBJECTS	**Customer No.**	33717

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d)

I hereby certify that this document is being transmitted electronically to the United States Patent and Trademark Office via the EFS Web e-Filing system on <u>August 21, 2007</u>.

Name: Nuo Qu

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

MAIL STOP: RCE
Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In connection with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination, Applicant submits the following amendment and remarks for consideration in response to the Final Office Action of January 18, 2007.

1

hand-off the observation of the at least one object to a second detector in an observation range of the at least one object.

39.   (New) The surveillance system of claim 38, wherein the second detector is a neighbor of the first detector.

40.   (New) The surveillance system of claim 38, wherein the second detector is activated responsive to the processor determining that the at least one object will be traveling from an observation range of the first detector to an observation range of the second detector.

41.   (New) The surveillance system of claim 38, wherein the mobile communications unit generates a position signal when the at least one object moves within the observation range of the first detector.

42.   (New) The surveillance system of claim 38, wherein the mobile communications unit comprises an accelerometer.

43.   (New) The surveillance system of claim 38, wherein the processor is further configured to receive from the database object information selected from a group consisting of an object name, an object identifier, an object group, an object query, an object condition, an object status, an object location, an object time, an object error, and an object image, video, or audio broadcast signal.

44.   (New) The surveillance system of claim 38, wherein the at least one object is monitored using an extrapolated or last-stored positional or visual signal.

45.   (New) The surveillance system of claim 38, wherein the at least one object is authenticated according to a voice pattern or a magnetic or smart-card signal.

46.   (New) The surveillance system of claim 38, wherein an electronic file comprising a recorded or live voice or music transmission is provided to the at least one object via the network.

47.   (New) An integrated object surveillance system comprising:

a mobile communications unit physically associated with an object to monitor at least one sensed condition or location according to a GPS device of the object, wherein the mobile communications unit is operable to communicate wirelessly with a processor through a network; and

a first detector coupled to the network and selected by the processor to observe the object when such object is determined by the processor to be located within a first

3

observation range of the first detector, wherein the processor is operable to access a database including a representation of an identity and a location of the object, such first detector being configured to automatically hand-off the observation to a second detector in a neighboring site for observing the object movement.

48.   (New) The integrated object surveillance system of claim 47, wherein the first detector is configured to automatically hand-off the observation to a second detector in a neighboring site for observing the object movement when such observation is triggered or activated by such object movement.

49.   (New) The integrated object surveillance system of claim 47, wherein the second detector is activated responsive to the processor determining that the object will be traveling from an observation range of the first detector to an observation range of the second detector.

50.   (New) The integrated object surveillance system of claim 47, wherein the mobile communications unit comprises an accelerometer.

51.   (New) The integrated object surveillance system of claim 47, wherein the processor is further configured to receive from the database object information selected from a group consisting of an object name, an object identifier, an object group, an object query, an object condition, an object status, an object location, an object time, an object error, and an object image, video, or audio broadcast signal.

52.   (New) The integrated object surveillance system of claim 47, wherein the object is monitored using an extrapolated or last-stored positional or visual signal.

53.   (New) The integrated object surveillance system of claim 47, wherein the object is authenticated according to a voice pattern or a magnetic or smart-card signal.

54.   (New) The integrated object surveillance system of claim 47, wherein an electronic file comprising a recorded or live voice or music transmission is provided to the object via the network.

55.   (New) The integrated object surveillance system of claim 47, wherein the processor confirms the identity of the object by processing a visual image of the object using adaptive or neural learning software to recognize such object automatically.

56. (New) An object surveillance method comprising:

accessing a representation of an identity and a location of at least one object from a database;

monitoring data representative of the movement or location of the at least one object;

communicating the monitored data to a processor coupled to receive the data over a network; and

observing the at least one object using a first detector coupled to the network and selected by the processor to observe the at least one object when the at least one object is recognized by the processor to be located within an observation range of the first detector, wherein the first detector is configured to automatically hand-off the observation to a second detector, positioned in a neighboring observation range, to observe movement of the at least one object.

57. (New) The object surveillance method of claim 56, wherein the first detector is configured to automatically hand-off the observation to a second detector in a neighboring site for observing the at least one object movement when such observation is triggered or activated by such object movement.

58. (New) The object surveillance method of claim 56, wherein the second detector is activated responsive to the processor determining that the at least one object will be traveling from an observation range of the first detector to an observation range of the second detector.

59. (New) The object surveillance method of claim 56 further comprising receiving from the database object information selected from a group consisting of an object name, an object identifier, an object group, an object query, an object condition, an object status, an object location, an object time, an object error, and an object image, video, or audio broadcast signal.

60. (New) The object surveillance method of claim 56 further comprising monitoring the at least one object using an extrapolated or last-stored positional or visual signal.

61. (New) The object surveillance method of claim 56 further comprising authenticating the at least one object according to a voice pattern or a magnetic or

smart-card signal.

62.   (New) The object surveillance method of claim 56 further comprising providing an electronic file having a recorded or live voice or music transmission to the at least one object via the network.

63.   (New) The object surveillance method of claim 56 further comprising confirming the identity of the at least one object by processing a visual image of the at least one object using adaptive or neural learning software to recognize such object automatically.